

Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
Library Board Annual Report 2013-2014

The Library Board appreciates the opportunity to advise the Library staff on its operation and activities. Where appropriate, the Board adopted and executed action plans to support the mission of the Library.

Infrastructure/Operations

Goal: Improve appearance of physical plant

Board action plan: Increase awareness of the implications of the \$3,000,000 grant from The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation for infrastructure and interior improvements.

Action taken: The Board was kept informed about the progression of the planning and implementation process.

Programming

Goal: Provide one on one interaction with program attendees

Board action plan: Serve as greeters plus distribute surveys and handouts at programs when applicable.

Action taken: Board members assisted as follows:

- Whispering Pines Housing Community Summer Program - *Cronin*
- Great Michigan Read Speaker Presentation, Steve Luxenberg - *Cronin*
- Storybird Program - *Markey*
- World Book Night Book Distribution - *Cronin, Hayes, Markey, Peterson*
- Library Open House - *Brink, Cronin, Hayes, Peterson*

Marketing

Goal: Increase visibility in community

Board action plan: Take advantage of opportunities to make the public aware of the Library and its services.

Action taken: Cronin wrote Midland Daily News February 23, 2014 *forum* article; Cronin attended American Library Association's National Library Legislative Day in Washington D.C. (Funded through mini grant locally by Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative); Peterson, Midland Public Schools' Representative on the Board, helped coordinate a library database workshop for Midland Public Schools' Media Center staff.

Strategic Plan

Goal: Create the 2014-2016 Strategic Plan

Board action plan: Three Board members served on the Strategic Plan Committee alongside Administrator Barnard and designated staff members.

Action taken: Cronin, Galt and Hayes actively contributed in meetings during fall of 2013, helping to create the 2014-2016 Strategic Plan.

The Library Board will continue to support the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library staff, providing community input and encouraging patron participation in improving the library's services. The Board is impressed with the staff's accomplishments and service to the community and would highlight the extraordinary effort made by Melissa Barnard during the library's recent renovation of the physical plant. We look forward to another year of collaborating with Library staff to serve the community by sustaining and improving our jewel of a Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

2013-2014 Grace A. Dow Memorial Library Board

Michael Burhans, Chair

Maxine Brink, Vice Chair

Lucille Cronin

Sarah Galt

Debbie Hayes

Steven Markey

Laura Peterson